

**Resource material for teaching the calling by God
of lay people to ministry
entitled
“You are shaped by God to be part of the picture”
brought to you by
EMPOWERING THE CHURCH FOR CHANGE GROUP**



Dear parish leaders,

Introduction

This exciting material is titled: **“You are shaped by God to be part of the picture”**. It focuses on the “Vocation of the Laity” and it is hoped that every Parish / Ministry District will work through the material sometime during the months of August and September 2011. As you know, the concept of the ministry of all the faithful baptised, that we are seeking to implement throughout the Diocese, stands on our belief that at our baptism we were all empowered by God through the gift of the Holy Spirit for ministry as a part of the body of Christ.

This material seeks to bring parishioners to an “awareness” of their own calling to ministry and vocation, as the people of God. With this awareness: our people are more likely to embrace their calling and take up their particular ministry within the life of the Church. It is vitally important that we as a Diocesan Family continue to provide opportunities for our Parishes / Ministry Districts and people to be transformed into Ministering Communities in Mission. This material is another resource to enable us to do this effectively.

The process for implementing this material will be that the main teaching will take place on the Sunday morning in place of the sermon: then an opportunity is given during the week for members of the Parish / Ministry District to gather to discuss it further.

Overview of the material

As the material suggests by its title, **“You are shaped by God to be part of the picture”**, the basic message is that each baptised person is a created unique shape by God. In order to discern our vocation, it is helpful to determine our unique special shape. Doing this, will help us to see where we fit into the bigger picture of the ministry of the church. So using the acronym of S.H.A.P.E. the theme for the five weeks are:

- S = Spiritual gifts;
- H = Heart – what is your passion?
- A = Ability - what are you good at?
- P = Personality
- E = Experience – what experiential knowledge do you have?

During the five weeks the question “Where do I belong?” will continually be asked, and in asking that question, over the five weeks, we will see that in

Spiritual Gifts for my Vocation - God's Gifts make me Belong
Heart for my Vocation - My Passion makes me belong
Abilities for my Vocation - My skills make me belong
Personality for my Vocation - Who I am makes me belong
Experience for my Vocation - My past makes me belong

We provide this material to you as a resource for you to use in promoting the vocation of the Laity in your parish/ministry district. The material is designed to be used in a 5 week series during the weekly Eucharist. It includes the following:

- Liturgical resources which include:
 - ✓ Theme for the week
 - ✓ Theme notes
 - ✓ Collect for the Week
 - ✓ Readings for the Sunday
 - ✓ A suggested introduction to the confession
 - ✓ An alternative confession
 - ✓ A Proper preface for use in the Thanksgiving Prayer
 - ✓ An alternative Blessing
- Notes to help you in your preparation of the sermon
- A completed sermon for parishes with no clergy
- A children's sermon/talk
- Bible Study Material

Where does the material come from?

The material is produced by The Revd. Lynda Wyngaard. Lynda Wyngaard is an Anglican priest living in South Africa. First teaching in a seminary, then pastoring inner city and suburban parishes in Johannesburg, she later moved to a parish in Pietermaritzburg in the KwaZulu-Natal Midlands. She is married to Peter (an Anglican Priest and theological educator) and has two sons, Richard (also a priest), and Luke (a guitarist). Lynda has a passion for helping people grow spiritually as they journey with Christ. Her interests include running retreats, devising liturgies and writing and recording songs for worship.



The Revd. Lynda Wyngaard

The material has been adapted and added to by The EMPOWERING THE CHURCH FOR CHANGE GROUP. It is our prayer that you will find this material useful in your parish.

The EMPOWERING THE CHURCH FOR CHANGE GROUP consists of

Bishop Allan Ewing

The Revd. Canon Bill Byleveld

The Revd. Dr. Desiree Snyman

The Ven. Joe Hopkins

The Revd. Darryl Cotton

The Revd. Dr.. Sarah MacPherson